

Criminal Justice Information Systems Advisory Committee December 2, 2004

The Criminal Justice Information Systems Advisory Committee of the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice met Thursday, December 2, 2004 , at 9:30 a.m., in conference room LL-F of the Nebraska State Office Building, Lincoln, Nebraska. Notice of the meeting was published November 19, 2004, in the Lincoln Journal Star.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by Chair Michael Overton. The following members were present: Ron Bowmaster, NIDCAC; John Cariotto, State Court Administrator; Rachel Marden for Mike Gomez, NE Parole Board; Michael Overton, NE Crime Commission; Byron Patterson, Police Officers' Association of NE; Ed Ragatz, Lincoln Police Department; Ron Riethmuller, NE Department of Correctional Services; Steven Schafer, NE CIO; Scott McFall for John Shelton, Nebraska State Patrol; Melanie Koch for Michael Thurber, Lancaster County Correctional Department; and Dave Wegner, NE Probation Department. The following members were **absent**: Lash Chaffin, League of NE Municipalities; Scot Ford, PCAN; Joe Franco, Omaha Police Department; Bill Howland, NE Attorney Generals Office; Dennis Keefe, Lancaster County Public Defender; Terry Lane, DOT Comm; Gregg Magee, NE Sheriffs Association; Elaine Menzel, NE Association of County Officials; Sarah O'Shea, NE Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Coalition; Glenn Ogg, HHS, Protection and Safety; Lee Polikov, Sarpy County Attorney; Mary Tyner, NE Coalition for Victims of Crime; Marlene Vetick, Clerk of District Courts; and Steve Worster, Commission on Public Advocacy.

Also present were: Jerry Brown, IMS Services; Dale Fengmeier, Department of Communications; Bob Grant, Department of Roads; Sherri Jacobs, Sarpy County; Jeannine Kohel and Rod Warner, NE State Patrol; George Wells and Steve King, Department of Corrections; and Allen Curtis, Matthew Dicke and Barbara McCreight, NE Crime Commission.

Approval of Minutes

Motion

A motion was made by Cariotto and seconded by Wegner to approve the minutes of the Criminal Justice Information Systems Advisory Committee meeting of September 9, 2004. Motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

PROJECT UPDATES

JUSTICE -

Cariotto reported the judges' courtroom enhancement project is at two pilot sites and will also be going to Sarpy County. The project records the courtroom events directly to the computer system and produces the documents.

Cariotto attended a warrant workshop sponsored by the National Center for State Courts at which they looked at the XML formats of recording and disseminating warrant information. They are working towards an Oasis standard.

Work continues to focus on electronic filing and courtroom enhancement for the separate juvenile courts.

- The conversion and installation are completed in Sarpy County Separate Juvenile Court and data is now going to JUSTICE with the exemption of some financial data.
- Lancaster County Separate Juvenile Court is working to move over to JUSTICE with a target date of the first of the year. JUSTICE would be their main record keeping system. They have not been able to migrate stored data, it will have to be reentered.
- There are no plans to implement the system in the Douglas County Juvenile Court at this time.

The Lancaster County District Court has gone from microfilming to imaging of court documents. Scanning equipment has been installed and paper documents are now scanned into the system. A bar code identifier sticker is attached to the document and the number is recorded into JUSTICE for tracking. The document images are stored at the end of each day. The index in JUSTICE allows the court to electronically access the documents filed.

Fillmore and Adams Counties are storing documents to imaging and Hall and Sarpy Counties are starting to install the necessary equipment.

This is a legal XML format project that eliminates the need for data entry again to populate JUSTICE. This is not just a court utility. The goal is for all state courts to be able to accept electronic filing of documents issued by the court. The serving of warrants is now hard to track, electronic filing opens many potentials in this area. The goal is to have the courts able to accept electronic filings sometime in the next year. The hope is that all court documents could be accessed and that documents could be issued in electronic form.

Overton noted they anticipate citations being generated and stored as images available through NCJIS.

Cariotto noted Nebraska and Pennsylvania are far ahead of the rest of the nation in information sharing, as per comments at the conference he attended.

VINE

Overton reported this was the 5th anniversary for VINE in Nebraska. The first site (Adams County) went live in May, 1999. Governor Johanns included VINE as part of his press conference on October 6th when he proclaimed October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. PSA's were issued.

VINE continues to get steady use. In 2004, there were approximately 200 new registrations per month, 79,000 calls into VINE, and 1,500 calls to victims each month.

The service contract was extended with VINE which included a 7% increase in cost. There continues to be a need for general fund resources to support VINE. The Commission has used general funds to provide matching funds for a victim grant to fund VINE. The stability of federal funding is a concern.

NCJIS

Overton reported that Corey Cashmere is providing NCJIS training today in Grand Island. There are 270+ agencies accessing NCJIS which is a combination of state, county and federal agencies. There is also interest in accessing the system by more federal agencies. DEA was recently added.

Current case record information from JUSTICE was added to NCJIS. This is current information, based on a nightly upload. The hit rate on NOL per month is now 60,000 to 65,000 per month.

Iowa Probation and Parole Department was also brought on to the NCJIS system.

Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) drivers' photos and images of the signatures are now available to law enforcement on NCJIS. The statute specifies access to law enforcement which is defined as sheriffs, police chiefs, and those with similar powers. Possible change in statute may be considered to allow probation, parole, corrections, etc. to access the data. Letters from agencies interested in receiving access will be given to the DMV. They will seek an attorney general's opinion on the definition.

Cariotto noted the Child Support Task Force includes representatives from Iowa and Nebraska. They are working to share information across state lines on child support enforcement. He questioned if a task force should be formed to share information between Iowa and Nebraska on other criminal justice matters.

Overton reported on other states' sharing efforts. Nebraska has shared information on the NCJIS system with several other states (Michigan, Kansas, Maine, etc.) at no cost. Wyoming will open an NCJIS type portal with a lot based on Nebraska's NCJIS code. They will migrate to a dot.net system and this code conversion will be shared with Nebraska at no cost. Wyoming is interested in sharing data with Nebraska. Attempts at sharing information with Iowa will be discussed again in the future.

Overton noted unfortunately, federal funding is uncertain at this time. A bulk of the current funding programs expire in September of 2005.

Updates to NCJIS

1. The first interactive project has been implemented on NCJIS. It will allow the standardized model forms (a drug abuse screening instrument) to be shared interactively within probation. It will branch out to corrections and parole and then to other local agencies.
2. DMV photos are now live on NCJIS. Tuesday there were 500 hits on the DMV photos. It is anticipated this will get a lot of use.

Local Application Projects

SLEUTH - A contract with Access Data for SLEUTH has been completed which will allow for 6 additional licenses. The Tribal Justice Statistics Center project which will provide SLEUTH to the Thurston County Sheriff and the Winnebago and Omaha Nation Tribes.

JAMIN - There has been no change in the JAMIN project.

CMS - The prosecutors case management system has been installed in 18 locations. This includes 14 new installations. They are working on interfaces back to JUSTICE. The contract with Software Unlimited expires February, 2005. The hope is to have interested sites, such as Buffalo County, installed by then. Discussions with Douglas County have taken place but it appears they are not going to use the system.

Overton reported they are waiting for the return of a signed MOU from Douglas County District Court for access to their warrant data. The coding has been completed. Overton stated they would also like to have access to their case summary information.

EasyStreet Draw

The EasyStreet Draw program is stable and being used by 180 agencies. Funding for an upgrade and maintenance is being sought with DMV.

TraCS

Scott McFall reported the Supreme Court approved the electronic citation form developed in TraCS. They are now working on an XML interface, testing, etc.

Cariotto said the court approval was to receive the paper citation in the new format. The next step will be to seek court approval for acceptance of the electronic form.

Overton reported on a contract with Access Data to modify the citation component. SLEUTH agencies are interested in the mobile citations module. Money is available through Department of Transportation to assist with the automation. It will include the generation of the PDF. The plan is to demonstrate the SLEUTH interface system at the CJIS conference in February.

NCHIP

Rod Warner reported the Patrol has identified NCHIP grant funds to be used for the PCH migration off of the state mainframe. A sole source document has been submitted. They are waiting for approval from the federal government to use the funds for this purpose.

AFIS

McFall stated Phase II to update the advanced matrix system on the AFIS system is funded and should be completed the first quarter of 2005.

The Patrol has sought funding support from the Governor for Phase III which will include a major overhaul of the system. It was emphasized that this was more than just a Patrol project, it would affect all law enforcement and corrections across the state.

SOR (Sex Offender Registry)

The SOR included HHS daycare listings, some modifications were set up to automatically update level II listings.

NeLEIS

The NeLEIS system is now connected to RISSnet. This provides regional criminal intelligence and a secure email to all RISSnet nodes and the federal secure. They will work with HIDTA to allow other agencies to query NeLEIS database through a new XML scheme. A sequel server has been ordered which will be used to revamp the NSP's intelligence system. The rewrite of NeLEIS is about 80% complete. They are looking at linking NeLEIS to NCJIS which would allow other law enforcement to share their intelligence. With the RISSnet, all their data mining tools will be available to include NeLEIS data, allowing the creation of link charts, etc.

Protection Order Registry

The last meeting on the protection order registry determined the next objective is to work towards including Douglas County in the message switch in the JUSTICE system.

The protection order system is not yet receiving Douglas County data.

Department of Roads - the electronic accident form is being tested by 14 clients through the Patrol's private network.

Work continues toward standard charge codes for PCH across the board and how it is held in data tables. This needs to be done for TraCS system and for the interface between prosecutors and JUSTICE. Efforts will need to be combined.

Electronic Filing Manager (EFM)

Bowmaster reported there are 3 EFM projects.

1. The existing state EFM which is built on the court filing.
2. The Oxi is the national effort to write the standard functionality and is implemented in Nebraska.
3. The new standard called "court filing blue" which attempts to move court filings along with the global justice data dictionary model. It will implement the subset scheme of that data model. It modifies the EFM and makes the data base connectors part of an implementation and not within the standard itself. It includes electronic service as part of the standard. The standard is still under development and should be recommended as a national standard by the end of the year.

The electronic filing manager will allow the transfer of information from one system to another. It will have an interface to the JUSTICE case management system in a document management system.

This is not just a court system. The process of retrieving documents is a controlled and restricted access to a document through the EFM. It allows managing information sharing from one system to another system. The first data will be the traffic citation data and documents part of that data stream.

Probation

Dave Wegner noted since their system went live with the interface between NPIMS and PCH, 100,000 records have been updated. The system shows supervising officers and discharges on a current basis.

Mugshots

Overton stated he is helping Buffalo County Sheriffs Office with an RFP to access mugshots. He stated CJIS may be able to help with funding of the project. Work is also underway with Hall County and Omaha to access their photos.

Juvenile Data Sharing

The Crime Commission and the CIO are sponsoring an effort under contract with MTG to look at the issue of juvenile data sharing. MTG has conducted interviews and is developing two documents that describe data exchanges and needs. A positive response to MTG's efforts has been received from the steering committee.

The next phase is to form focus groups of targeted players from all disciplines. Two sessions will be held in Omaha December 7th and 2 in Lincoln on December 8th. It is also anticipated that one session will be held in Scottsbluff and another in the middle of the state.

The goal is to develop a high level strategic plan related to the sharing of juvenile data across the user base and to develop a recommended governing structure.

Arrangements are still being sought to conduct Interviews with all HHS participants. It has been a problem to get full participation from the various HHS players.

Governor's Initiative

Steve Schaefer reported the Governor's Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect recommended the better exchange of information among all entities. Funding was designated for the information exchanges. A steering committee was formed and an interim report was presented to the Governor the end of October on Nebraska's rash of child deaths due to child abuse. One recommendation was for the better exchange of information among all the entities involved in the investigation and prosecution of child abuse neglect cases. The following six steps were approved by the Governor to improve information exchanges:

1. To help HHS work with hospitals towards the release of information on potential child abuse problems to those authorized to investigate such cases. This was identified as a zero cost item.
2. To create a view with NCJIS to be used by non-law enforcement personnel to access information that would be useful during the investigation of child abuse/neglect cases.
3. To investigate whether there is an existing view within Nfocus that could be available to law enforcement and prosecutors.
4. To incorporate into NCJIS the exchange interface with Nfocus and Omaha.
5. To provide an 18-24 month training program for all entities involved in the investigation of child abuse (1184 Teams). They were to determine what information was needed, how to share the data, and how to collect the data. This is a cultural change effort to encourage better working relationships among all the parties.
6. To hire a consultant to provide a detailed analysis of potential information exchanges among existing systems.

Schafer reported state funding support is available and all projects are now moving forward. Memorandums are being developed. An RFP needs to be written for the study.

Curtis commended Schaefer on his work on this project.

Overton noted non-law enforcement access to NCJIS would require a separate type of front end. Access would then be determined by the owner of the data. A NCJIS subcommittee is working on this issue.

Technology Conference

Ron Riethmuller reported on the plans for the next CJIS Technology Conference to be held February 16-17th in North Platte at the Sandhills Convention Center. The conference will follow a similar format with workshops to be held Wednesday morning prior to the start of the conference in the afternoon. The workshop topics include a the basics of mapping and GPS, security issues, and tips on the use of NCJIS. The room rate is guaranteed at \$62.00 per night. Work continues on obtaining vendors and prizes.

Overton stated agenda items include forensics, PC Lan network security, State GIS initiatives, and NCJIS workshop. Announcements are to be sent out this week. A ticket stream will also be placed on NCJIS regarding the conference.

SLEUTH Users Conference

Planning is underway for a SLEUTH users conference to piggyback the CJIS conference. It would be held February 14th and 15th and feature mobile applications, particularly eCitations.

Overton stated they are negotiating with the vendor for a CMS users conference for prosecutors. . The initial cost figure was quoted at \$22,000, they are discussing the cost and contacting county attorneys to ascertain interest.

Other Business

Overton suggested the Committee may want to expand their membership to include a representative from the newly formed NE Correctional Administrators and Managers Association.

It was reported that Ron Bowmaster is now working for the Department of Corrections Communications Division not IMS. Bowmaster represents the NIDCAC. It was suggested that membership expansion could also be considered to include a representative from IMS. This will be added to the next agenda.

Overton announced the retirement of Allen Curtis effective January 28, 2005.

Motion

A motion was made by Cariotto and seconded by Schafer to adopt the following resolution in appreciation for the support Allen Curtis has given CJIS:

WHEREAS, prior to 1995, criminal history, court, corrections, probation, and motor vehicle information, among others, required significant effort by individuals in making phone calls and sending letters,

WHEREAS, the Legislature entrusted the Crime Commission to spearhead the effort to make this information readily available,

WHEREAS, this effort has resulted in NCJIS, which has been recognized as one of the major data sharing successes in Nebraska and nationally,

WHEREAS, the success of every large and difficult project requires a dedicated, skillful, and influential executive sponsor,

NOW, therefore, be it resolved that the Criminal Justice Information System Committee recognizes and thanks Allen Curtis for his steadfast leadership, wise counsel, resolve, skilled selection of staff members and unfailing support of this project. The Committee wishes Mr. Curtis well in his retirement and hopes many large fish are in his future.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

The next scheduled meeting for CJIS will be **Thursday, May 12, 2005**, at the State Office Building, Lower Level Conference Room F, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara McCreight
Administrative Assistant